

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claims 1 - 13 (cancelled).

Claim 14 (currently amended): A nonwoven fabric for buffing applications comprising:

an imaged, apertured fibrous matrix comprising polyester staple length fibers, and a polymeric binder, which comprises a melamine polymeric compound and an acrylic/copolymer composition.

said nonwoven fabric having a combined tensile strength of at least about 800 grams/ounce of fabric, and a Taber Abrasion of at least about 1000 cycles.

Claims 15 - 16 (cancelled).

Claim 17 (original): A nonwoven fabric in accordance with claim 14, wherein: said fabric has an image imparted thereto by a three-dimensional image transfer device having an array of three-dimensional surface elements having an octagon-and-square configuration.

Claim 18 (original): A nonwoven fabric in accordance with claim 14, wherein: said fabric has an image imparted thereto by a three-dimensional image transfer device having an array of three-dimensional surface elements having a herringbone configuration.

Claim 19 (cancelled).

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Claim 20 (new): A nonwoven fabric in accordance with claim 14, wherein:
said fabric has an image imparted thereto by a three-dimensional image transfer
device having an array of three-dimensional surface elements having a surface
configuration to enhance retention of an associated buffing compound.

Respectfully submitted,

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